





Don Miller donmiller@somoag.org

Accelerate

What an amazing time we experienced in District Council 2022 (now known as Network Conference)! God met with us in each service challenging and encouraging us.

The theme for this month's Messenger is Accelerate. Yes, that was the theme for District Council. Yet, it is a word that God has given us for this season. In this article, we will review some things which have already been said regarding this topic. This is not designed to be repetitious but to keep these thoughts before us.

The word accelerate could easily refer to the rapid rate of change of our culture and our world. These last two years have brought unbelievable changes and challenges. Yet, I believe there is spiritual significance to this word. Amos speaks of this concept:

"Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord, "when the plowman shall overtake the reaper and the treader of grapes him who sows the seed;" (Amos 9:13, ESV).

In this passage, Amos speaks of restoration for the Israelites. He shares of a day that God will literally accelerate the harvest in the land; a day when the one who is reaping comes right behind the one who is sowing. It would be a time of blessing and bountiful harvest. Yes, Amos is speaking of an actual physical harvest. Yet, often in his Word God uses what is happening in the physical to illustrate what he plans to do in the spiritual realm.

I believe we are moving into the greatest season of spiritual harvest this world has ever known. Jesus is coming soon. And right before he comes, God is going to do all that he can to bring as many as possible to him. We get to be part of that amazing season.

Why is it important for us to realize that God is going to accelerate the harvest? First, as we catch hold of this reality, we are encouraged to pray fervently, to intercede, that God will bring an awakening to Southern Missouri, to our nation, and to our world. Yes, may he use all believers. But God please give the Southern Missouri Ministry Network part of the harvest. Reinhard Bonnke stated, "Miracles are the dinner bell to the gospel." So, like the apostles, we pray for God to move in signs and wonders to demonstrate his power and to draw unbelievers to salvation.

Anticipating this new season motivates us to prepare for the harvest. We must be ready to receive and to disciple those who are brought to salvation so the harvest will be retained. As leaders, we must be ready to steward the move of God to avoid abuses and excesses which could cause distraction and confusion and hinder the work of his Spirit.

We are already seeing signs of this move in pockets across Southern Missouri. It reminds me of the old hymn, Showers of Blessings. The chorus declares, "Mercy drops round us are falling; but for the showers we plead!" Please pray with us that God will truly accelerate the harvest.

REFRESH MINISTRY WOMEN



Vicki Miller vickimiller@somoag.org

A Legacy of Prayer

Refresh













Highlights from Refresh Breakaway 2022

The increased attendance and response to the powerful content of each session speaker indicated that God's girls are serious about their callings.







Refresh







LUNCH AND LEARN (ONLINE)

- 6 Sessions
- · Weekly Presenter
- 30 Minute Long Teaching Option: Stay on for 30 for Discussion & Prayer
- Sessions Recorded so you can Watch Back







EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



Stan Welch stanwelch@somoag.org



District Council's Missions Rally service opened with over 130 SOMO Missionaries singing "Send the Light" and closed with a stirring song of "Lord of the Harvest" reminding us the harvest is plentiful and the laborers are few.

Rev. Stan Welch delivered a challenging message to Accelerate the Harvest. A few message points:

To Accelerate the Harvest we must

- 1. Refocus our view of the harvest
- a. Timing of the harvest
- b. Condition of the harvest
- c. Scope of the harvest
- 2. Receive Power to bring in the harvest
- 3. Give, pray, go











New Ministry Focus to Missionary Kids

Southern Missouri has faithfully, and consistently, sent and supported hundreds of missionaries over the years. While we are proud of this achievement and continue to celebrate this endeavor, there is a question we would like to ask: **how many of those missionaries' kids do you know?**

This seems like a simple question; however, it is more complex than most people realize. Often when emphasizing missions, we focus on the couple instead of the family. The truth is, God has anointed and called the entire family into the missions effort, which means missionary kids need our prayer and support as well. They are just as vital to the mission, but often don't receive recognition for their part.

As a result of this, many missionary kids struggle in the areas of identity, belonging and purpose. These struggles only intensify as they try to balance every day life along with the work their family has been called to. While these challenges will vary case by case, the root of the struggle remains the same.

This creates an opportunity for us, to come alongside our missionary kids and minister to their needs. We believe we can make a difference in their lives by providing hospitality, increasing our understanding of their experiences, and establishing stronger connections with them. Some simple methods could include providing a small gift, taking the time to hear and share their stories, and learning about their favorite things. By recognizing, celebrating and encouraging our missionary kids, we not only meet their needs, we also build up the entire family.

We know that prayer makes the biggest difference, so we ask that you join with us in praying for our missionary kids. Pray that God would protect, encourage, and bless them. Pray for the Holy Spirit's presence and peace in their lives. Pray for the love of Christ to shine through them as they make a difference around the world.

Finally, we ask that you prayerfully consider how you and your church could join us in ministering to our missionary kids. Thank you for your continued support to missions and the work of the Kingdom.

Sincerely, John Michael and Nicole Caldwell johnmichaelcaldwell@ymail.com



CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER



Rhonda Amer ramer@somoag.org

REMINDER You may not be receiving the District emails because you have either accidently or intentionally unsubscribed to one of the emails you received from any of our Network offices. If you unsubscribe to only one, the "computer program" (not us) automatically unsubscribes you from all Network/Departmental emails. Please contact my assistant, Kim Glad, *kglad@somoag.org*, should you desire to be reinstated.



CHURCH DEVELOPMENT



Greg Perkins gperkins@somoag.org

ACCELERATE YOUR LEADERSHIP!

Considered by many to be the foremost authority on leadership, John Maxwell has famously said that "Everything rises and falls on leadership." The truth of that statement can be seen in organizations of any type or size. Leaders who are not consistently striving to grow in their spiritual walk and in their skills as a leader will ultimately hinder the forward progress of the church or ministry they lead. There is an abundance of resources that focus on ways to grow your skills in leadership, and we will look at some of those in a future Messenger article. In this article we will focus on the importance of growth in our spiritual walk upon our church or ministry as well as those we lead.

Growth in Our Spiritual Walk is CRITICAL!

The daily activities of church ministry do not automatically result in one growing more spiritually mature or being closer to God. Often, the busyness of ministry leads to the opposite result.

Several years ago, I was asked to assist a church in defining what it meant to be a fully devoted follower of Christ. That process required so much more soul-searching than we anticipated when we started. After three years of personal and collective study and research, our team compiled a list of seven characteristics that we felt best described what a fully devoted follower of Christ looked like. REACH, CONNECT, GROW, SERVE, WORSHIP, GIVING, and YIELDING to the Holy Spirit were the best expressions of being a follower of Jesus. We also concluded that each of the seven characteristics were also spiritual disciplines (or activities) that must be a regular part of a Christ-follower's life.

This discovery reminded me of the importance of these activities in my life as a Christ-follower *and* a leader. I must guard against these activities becoming exercises in busyness as well. If I can maintain each activity as a dynamic spiritual rhythm in my life, I can address my personal limitations and remain on track.

Continued Spiritual Transformation Benefits Those We Lead!

In her book *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership*, Ruth Haley Barton said, "Our transformation is never for ourselves alone. It is always for the sake of others" (p. 74). While it is important to develop for our own sake, it is even more significant for those we lead. As servant leaders, we need to keep in mind that we're never leading for our own benefit but serving the Lord. Therefore, we must allow him to perform His work in us for the sake of our organization, AND for those who serve Him there with us.

Leadership growth—specifically *your* leadership growth—may not be the *only* factor in the growth or decline of your church, but it is one of the most significant ones. Your willingness or unwillingness to grow spiritually will have a significant impact on the people we lead. If we grow as a leader, our people will grow, and our church will grow as a result.

Blessings!

Greg Perkins



CHURCH PLANTING

Jerry Harris jharris@somoag.org



BY JERRY HARRIS, REACH MISSOURI NETWORK

Summer 2022

NEW CHURCH PLANTING DIRECTOR

Congratulations to RMN's Director of Operations, Chris Wiggs, for being appointed the new Church Planting Director of the Southern Missouri Ministry Network! This appointment means a continued strong partnership and collaboration between the SMMN and RMN to plant churches in the state of Missouri.

Chris has been RMN's Director of Operations for the last two years. He and Laura planted Reach Church STL three years ago, a healthy and growing church reaching the St. Ann, MO neighborhood.

Reach Missouri Network is a U.S. Missions Project, founded by Jerry Harris five years ago to plant churches in Missouri. The Network is funded by churches, organizations and individuals who believe in our mission to have impactful and influential churches in every community. As Director of Operations for RMN, and now the new Church Planting Director of SMMN, Chris will be contacting you and asking you to partner with us in prayer and with financial support to plant 60 new churches across Missouri. A huge "Thank You" to all of you who are currently supporting Reach Missouri Network and our planters. With your support, we will continue to reach the one far from God by starting new churches.



Our new church plants have an 88% success rate.

Our new churches are not just surviving, they are thriving!

NEW CHURCH PLANTERS JOIN NETWORK



Andrew & Brenda Lovins

Shield Church Arnold

Andy and Brenda Lovins are excited to launch Shield Church, whose mission is to "reach and restore" the lost.

Shield Church will be a safe, welcoming space where people can come to know Jesus as Savior. They will experience God's healing power and presence through worship, biblical teaching, and recovery ministry.



Alex & Marianna Limonchenko

Victory Church Nixa

The vision of Victory Church is to help people live a life of victory by the power of Jesus Christ; to help Christians

fulfill the great commission; to disciple and equip people to do the work of the ministry; and to grow them up into Christ in all things. All this, because a transformed life begins with a transformed mind in Jesus.

Giving options: Online, text, mail or through AGUSM.

Reachmonetwork.org/give or Giving.ag.org/give #4707394

CROSS POINTE CAMP



Curtis & Cindy Washam, Directors crosspointeretreatcenter@gmail.com

Accelerate

Cross Pointe Camp has been used by God to impact the lives of thousands and thousands of people in our Network since 1942. There is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit every year in our camps and retreats. As we see the signs of the coming of the Lord, let us believe for the empowerment to accelerate the harvest. Continue to pray for the camps that are taking place, and our men's and women's events at camp. Pray that the spiritual fire from camp

will be taken back to churches impacting them in a miraculous way. If you would like to receive a monthly prayer email, go to SOMOprayer.com to sign up.

We are so thankful for the crew that came to camp on April 6th, to unload the new chairs for the Tabernacle. We are excited about the transformation that these chairs are making in the services at camp.





For monthly prayer focus, go to SOMOprayer.com



MEN
Greg Perkins
gperkins@somoag.org

WHAT IS A 360MAN?

A lifestyle

A 360Man commits to live out his faith full circle (360 degrees) in everyday life.

A Network

Becoming a 360Man allows you to be part of something that is bigger than yourself, and something that makes a difference in the lives of other men.

A Partnership

Your monthly financial gift is NOT a TRANSACTION, but a monthly TRANSFORMATIONAL INVESTMENT into the lives of men who do not yet know God, and men who are not connected to the purpose God has for them.

A Missional Movement

OF men, BY men, and THROUGH men!



QUICK FACTS

- 1360Man Missionary
- 3 Men's groups going through leadership training
- 235 SOMO 360Men committed to living out their faith daily



WHY ARE YOU A 360MAN?

"Because I want to help other men draw closer to Christ and fulfill their purpose." Larry T.

"360Man gives us the opportunity to get together from all over the place under one mission." Dave B.

"Because I believe that Men's Ministries is the heart of the church. And I want to see this church grow and thrive in today's culture." Andrew B.

MEN'S SUMMIT
@ CROSS POINTE
(ROCKY MOUNT, MO)

SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2022



MEN'S SUMMIT

@ EAGLE SKY

(PIEDMONT, MO)

OCTOBER 14-15, 2022

REGISTER TODAY @ SOMOSUMMIT.COM

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Sherry Welch wms@somoag.org

SOUTHERN MISSOURI DISTRICT WOMEN'S RETREATS ON

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



WOMEN'S DIRECTOR



Elly Marroquin





Steven Welch WORSHIP LEADER

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & DISCIPLESHIP

For more informations and to register, visit https://somoag.org/women/about/2021-fall-retreats/

Women Empowering Women Growth Track

On Friday afternoon of each retreat we will be offering our very first "Growth Track." These sessions are for everyone.

We would love to spend Friday afternoon with you!

Session Topics

- ~Equipping You for Better Leadership
- ~Building Self-Esteem
- ~Identifying the Tactics of the Enemy
- ~Leading with Excellence

LOCAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR WOMEN

@ SOMO DISTRICT OFFICE | \$10 EACH | INCLUDES LUNCH

JULY 16 NOVEMBER 12



Each lady will receive a certificate from our SOMO Women's Director,

Sherry U Selch!

GIRLS MINISTRIES



Deshae Thrasher dthrasher@somoag.org

Accelerate Impact



The Summer months are often very busy with camps, vacations and activities while schools are out of session. However, there may be more opportunities for intentional investment in the lives of the students in your ministry in a small group setting. It may be a different format to an already scheduled service or a more impromptu trip to a park, restaurant or local sporting event. When looking to create impact it makes sense that more likeminded laborers will make the desired result much easier. Therefore, if we want to accelerate impact we must increase our investment in the next generation. Be willing to live life with your students this Summer! Some students are getting ready to start their relationship with Jesus, others may be looking to take the next step in growing in God, while others may be looking for ways to serve in the church.

In March, the Go Bold Girl Conference took place in Camdenton, Missouri for girls ages 5-18. Many students and leaders committed to taking the good news of Jesus to the next level in their life and sharing Jesus with their friends! The conference centered around the empowerment of the Holy Spirit and how God can increase impact when we are on His mission. Southern Missouri Girls continue to see the mission of taking the good news of Jesus to the nations raising more than \$5,000 during the conference for missions. The future of the next generation is bright, but as leaders we must see the impact can be accelerated if we are willing to invest more time, truth and trust into the character of our students.





Practical Ways To Invest in the Next Generation:

- -be consistent
- -be genuine
- -be willing to listen
- -greet them personally
- -celebrate all their wins big or small
- -provide opportunities for them to lead
- -Pray a blessing over them before they leave

For Free small group resources for elementary and teen girls check out Small Group Guides and Hot Topics on ngm.ag.org



GET READY FOR A SUMMER ADVENTURE!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



Chip Dudden cdudden@somoag.org

NEW GUY IN TOWN!

Here it is, my very first Messenger article... come on Chip, don't screw it up!

Maybe we should just begin with introductions. My name is Chip Dudden and I'm the new guy! Not new to ministry, or to the Dist... errrr... Network, but I definitely still wake up with that "New Guy" feeling. You know the one. It's that unsure "is this really happening, what have I gotten myself into?" sort of feeling. That feeling where every new relationship, agenda, event and interaction has that mildly awkward tang. It's almost as awkward as having to use your phone's "talk to text" to remember how to spell awkward (no "q", who knew!?)... but I digress.

As I try to figure out this new role and it tries to figure out me, the temptation is to look around, see the excellence around me and try and be just like that. And that's a pretty high bar! I mean, I'm across the hall from "THE" Austin Westlake. Have you seen that guy!?... I bet he knows how to spell awkward.

Spelling prowess aside, there are some serious shoes to fill here. Jim Calvin served in this role for 11 years! A large chunk of my ministry here in SOMO was served with Jim in the background cheering me on. Now I'm supposed to be Jim?!

Welllllll... no... I'm not.

I'm not supposed to be Austin and I'm not supposed to be Jim.

Right now, in this moment, the best I can do to serve this role is to be ME! Just an ordinary guy, whose personality profile features at least 4 of the 7 dwarfs (Hint: Doc doesn't make the list). So why me? Why now? What is it about this moment that requires a "Me"?

The truth is, I'm not sure I have it all figured out, and maybe you don't either. And you know what? That's ok. After all, when Esther entered the palace, she had no idea there would be a moment where she would be called on to save her people. But there she was, saying "Yes" and changing history. Her Uncle Mordecai nailed it when he said "Who knows? Maybe you were made queen for just such a time as this." And maybe... just maybe, so were you and I.

So what does that mean? It means I'm going to trust that God knew what He was doing when He made me, when He called me and when He placed me. Sure, I'm awkward, I'm uncomfortable and insecure. I could list 100 reasons why I'm not the right guy for this job, but I really only need 1 reason to accelerate ahead. I trust the Lord.

So for me, Proverbs 3:5-6 is the vehicle I'm driving. I'm going to trust in the Lord with all my heart. I'm going to lean on Him because I don't see the whole picture. I'm going to submit and say yes when He puts opportunities in front of me and I'm gonna hit the gas because He's made the path ahead straight.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES



John Heide johnheide2002@yahoo.com

MOVE IT!

wo school girls were taking a shortcut across a neighbor's field. They had been warned to stay out of the field and to stay away from Old Henry the neighbor's bull who roamed the field. Not seeing Henry the girl's thought it would be safe to take the shortcut. About halfway across the field they felt the ground shaking and Old Henry appeared full steam ahead running toward the girls. Frozen with fear one girl cried, "we're going to die." A few seconds later the other girl regaining her composure shouted "MOVE IT" and they both took off running just making it to the fence and safety as Old Henry got there.

In these last days those of us 50 Plus cannot afford to become distracted, depressed or discouraged by world events unfolding before us. The signs of Christ's return are everywhere and we must accelerate our vigilance in keeping one eye on the heavens for Christ and one eye on those who we can point toward Jesus. Paul would say keep "pressing toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

There is no need to panic or become fearful in endtime conditions. If we listen carefully perhaps we will hear Jesus say to us; "MOVE IT," just in the nick of time. Stay Rapture ready!



MESSENGER

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N. E. Region Paul Scheperle	Kansas CityJohn Martz
S. W. Region Ted Cederblom	KennettRichard Ross
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District Ministries	Saint Louis Joe Zarro
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Church PlantingChris Wiggs	
Church Development/Men's Ministry Greg Perkins	
Missions Stan Welch	
Women's Ministries Sherry Welch	
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Youth Ministries Austin Westlake	
Royal Rangers John Hicks	
Girls Ministries DeShae Thrasher	Female Presbyter Ashley Pritchett
Fifty Plus Ministries John Heide	
Cross Pointe Camp Curtis & Cindy Washam	

Available for Ministry

Rev. Reggie Ballard: Available for fill-in ministry. (605) 680-4552 reggieballard1@gmail.com

Rev. Clifford Batye: Fill-in ministry, secular vs. Biblical worldview seminars. 816-507-9737 discipleforu@gmail.com

Kevin Boggs: fill-in ministry. 417-380-1149 or kevinlboggs@yahoo.com

Carol Brown: Available for fill in ministry, revivals, women's services and/or retreats. 314-378-7438 or revcb@juno.com

Michael Campbell: 660-624-1672 – mike.joan.horseranch@hotmail.com

Rev. Thomas Canter: fill-in ministry. (314) 550-2222

Evangelist Terry Carter: 417-773-4151

Edward Catron: Weekend/fill-in ministry. 417-742-3045 or hazelned@gmail.com

Julie Perkin (Stout) Davenport is available for services, women's ministry meetings, etc.

(816) 304-6244 or dgdavenport@sbcglobal.net

Ronald Duncan: fill-in ministry, revivals, interim. 636-586-8151

Sophia Garcia: Hispanic or English Ministry: Women, Marriage Enrichment. 417-881-1919

Sue Harper: 573-429-7018

Rick lanniello: interim, fill-in min. 816-322-6825 or chaprickianniello@sbcglobal.net

Alfred Keith: fill-in ministry 417-775-4121

Kevin Larsen: Fill-in ministry. 417-379-8441 Kirk Metzger: fill-in ministry, weekly evenings, Sundays. 417-207-1543

Matthew Thomas: fill-in ministry. 618-401-1014

Mel Rowland of Ironton: fill-in ministry. 573-576-8453

Robert Boyce: Pulpit Fill-In, Revival Meetings 816-876-3363

Items of Interest

FOR SALE:

Hammond Spinet Organ, FREE to good home. Contact: Eva Leach 417-881-8447

Glad Tiding Assembly is selling:

Church Pews with Cushions. There are 4 different sizes to choose from ranging from 10 feet in length to 25 feet in length and 39 Pews in all. Asking \$50.00 for each or best offer. They are in great shape and would be great pews for an established church or church plant. Contact Wes Hansen or Pastor James McIntosh at (417) 866-2434. Buyer is responsible for pickup.

First Assembly of God in Lexington, Mo have 26 pews (108" length) to give to a church that needs them. They are in excellent condition. If interested, call Jack Blansit at 816.838.1779.

Church Buses for Sale-Two:

Nixa First Assembly of God. 2006 Chevrolet 3500, Collins body, seats 14 passengers plus 1 driver. Both buses have automatic transmission, vinyl passenger seats, cloth driver seat, safety belts, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, backup alarm, manual bus door, tinted windows, rear heat and AC, front heat and AC, RCA rubber flooring. Both buses well maintained, thorough going over in shop in June. Low mileage! One bus has 34,000 miles, the other has 42,000 miles. Asking \$16,000 for 42,000 mile bus, \$17,000 for 34,000 mile bus. Contact Steve Randolph @ 417-763-5128 or church office 417-725-3075

WANTED

New or Used Overhead or Video Projector. Missionaries Richard and Deborah Crabb. 573-578-6790 or richard.crabb@agmd.org.

EDITORS

Don Miller, Executive Editor Rhonda Amer, Managing Editor

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In Memoriam

J Michael Ferguson 1/23/2022
Dennis Deline2/26/2022
Channing Snively 4/3/2022
Richard Altom 4/4/2022
Richard Black 4/9/2022

Ministerial Updates
New Pastors:
Clyde StageLighthouse
David Fields Bethel AG Florissant
Carolyn Chester Koshkonong AG
Jeff Green Grace Springfield
Aleksandr Limonchenko . Victory Church-Neosho
Shawn Shockley Battlefield AG
Transfers In:
David FieldsIL
Nonda HoustonSOCal
Gordon Houston
Aleksandr Limonchenko Slavic
Larry Barber N Texas
Dennis Franck N CALIF
Transfers Out
Eusebia Rios MN
Noah Vonseggern MN
Andrew Neff N.MO
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Eusebia Rios MN
Noah Vonseggern MN
Andrew Neff N.MO
Daniel MacyOK
Ariel Marti
Israel MartiIL
Cameron Tilus OK
John Johnson

ACCELERATE 2022 DISTRICT COUNCIL and MOMENTUM

MOMENTUM



CELEBRATION SERVICE / 50-60-70 YEAR ORDINATION



BUSINESS and HONOR

















MISSIONS RALLY









PRAYER and PRAISE SERVICE











WOMEN'S LUNCHEON











MEN'S LUNCHEON









ORDINATION SERVICE











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75th Church Anniversary – Peace Chapel, Upton Pastor Philip and Wanda Nava



Pastor Rick and Lanee Nye Life Pointe Church, Odessa



Pastor Shawn and Lori Shockley Battlefield Assembly of God



Pastor David and Heidi Fields Florissant Fellowship AG

2022 Minister's Spiritual Renewal

ACCELERATE

October 17-19, 2022 Grace Community Church, Branson

Dr. Carol Alexander



Dr. Paul Alexander